

Callystown News

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June 2007

Louth Environmental School of the Year



There was great excitement in the auditorium of Dundalk Institute of Technology on Wednesday, when Callystown National School was announced as the overall winner of Louth County Council's Environmental Awards for Schools. Mrs Callaghan, Miss Burke and a number of the school's pupils were in attendance to collect the cup and a cheque for €200. This was a well deserved recognition of the hard work and dedication of the school staff, pupils and especially for Mrs. Callaghan's coordination of the work.

In the Awards Committee's overall statement regarding the school it stated " **Your improvement over the last twelve months has been quite remarkable and the awarding of Platinum status in this initiative surely must augur well for Greenschool status before long. It was a joy to visit your school, be entertained and educated and we look forward to celebrating many more successes in the future.**"

These awards are keenly sought and we can be duly proud of our success. We have a beautiful school and it is great that it has got recognition. Well done to all.

Kidsmart Early Learning Centre

Callystown N.S. has been selected by IBM to receive a Kidsmart Early Learning Centre. This is a very child friendly computer with very up to date software. The learning centre will be sited in one of the infant classes in September or October. It will be a magnificent addition to any classroom and it will be of great benefit to all who get the opportunity to work on it. The class teacher will receive training on the new computer. We have been very fortunate to have been chosen for this equipment and we are very grateful to IBM.



School Re-opens Monday 3rd of September

Lifeboat Games in Kilkeel

Sixth class had a wonderful day in May, representing the school and the local lifeboat station at the lifeboat sports day in Kilkeel, Co.Down. Callystown NS was one of eight schools from both sides of the border competing for the Michelin Cup. On this occasion we did not bring home the prize but were placed in a very respectable third place.

As part of the challenges involved in the event, each team had to fund raise for the RNLI. This was achieved by the running of a no-uniform day which was run before Easter. This event raised €550. The sixth class would like to thank everyone who contributed to that event.



On the sports day the teams were faced with challenges that included a wellie football tournament, an obstacle course and other lifeboat challenges. The games were very well organised and the sun shone on the day. It was a great experience for Miss Lally's class and hopefully we will get an invitation to take part in the games next year.

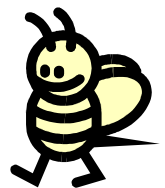
All Weather Pitch

The completion of the new all-weather pitch adjacent to the school grounds is a most welcome addition. The Clogherhead Development Group has kindly put this fantastic facility at the disposal of the school, during the school hours. It will be a great addition to the school's recreational and P.E. facilities. We look forward to using the pitch and are grateful to the CDG for their generosity.



Literacy Week

To promote literacy in the school we held our first Literacy week. There was a story-telling morning, a school wide writing exercise and the inaugural spelling bee championship. These events were a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. The following were the spelling Bee Champs; 6th Michaela Gorman, 5th Christopher Cloix, 4th Orla Lynch, 3rd Jack Taggart, 2nd Matt Byrne, 1st Niamh Tester and Sen. Inf. Adam Collins Kirwan.



Setanta ~ Clan Tuath Theatre Company

The school was treated to a magnificent performance of the Irish legend of Setanta by the Clan Tuath Theatre Company from Tipperary. Boys and Girls from fifth to senior infants sat enthralled by the color and sound of a magnificent performance. The com-

pany comprised of three actors who brought great life and realism to the legend. The costumes and special effects added to the event and the audience were not shy about getting involved in the action.

The performance lasted about one hour and when next the children hear of Cuchulann or Setanta they will have great memories of this day.



Green School News

It has been a very busy term with our Green School project. Our green school committee has been organizing events and raising the awareness of the campaign.

Firstly we took part in National Spring Clean Week which saw the children of first to sixth class cleaning and tidying the school grounds and the boundaries around the school. The school was given a skip from the county council which was full to capacity when leaving. The committee also invited



Sarah Fields from composting Ireland, who gave a very informative workshop on composting to the senior classes. And finally in May there was much excitement among the junior classes with the arrival of Auntie Litter Bug and the Louth County Council Litter Warden.

The school has completed four of the seven stages necessary for the achievement of the flag. We can look forward to more green school initiatives in the coming school year.

Summer Works

Due to the recent and forthcoming extensions to the school the present heating boiler has had to be replaced. This work will take place over the summer holidays.

The carpet in Miss Burke's and Miss Brodigan's room will also be replaced over the summer months. Some help will be needed from "able-bodied" parents to lift the existing carpet when school closes. If you are available please contact the school. Thank you.

Football Report

Congratulations to all the boys and girls who played on our football teams this year. Although our trophy cabinet is somewhat bare many fine performances were put in by our teams. The highlight of the year was the qualification of our girl's team to the last four in the county INTO sevens competition.

A special word of thanks to the parents who helped out by driving our teams to the various venues. Thanks also to the teachers who helped out in training teams.

Parents Council Notes by Siobhán Faulkner

The end of the school year is upon us. We would like to thank everyone for their support over the past year and a very busy year it has been. Firstly we had the Wheel of Fortune in December, followed by the Confirmation, then the First Communion and finally the Fun Day. The parents, committee mem-

bers and the teachers have made all these events a great success.

We look forward to your continued support next year and hope you all have a lovely summer.

Summer Grounds Committee

As part of the Green School initiative parents have agreed to help



take care of the plants over the summer holidays. If you are interested in helping out please give your

name to Grainne Campion (086 8223813) or contact the school.

Exhibition of School

Photographs

Photographs depicting many of the school events throughout the year will be on display in the new corridor and hall from Monday onwards.

All Welcome

Reminders:

School Levy: Due on the first week of September.

Tracksuits Collection: Tuesday June 26th between 1.30 p.m. and 3.00p.m.

Books Unlimited Collection; from Tues, Aug 28th between 11 a.m. and 12.30p.m.

Dear Parents,

As another successful and event filled school year draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to those who help make Callystown NS the great school it is.

Firstly, I would like to thank the teachers for their dedication and enthusiasm over the year. To Mary King, Gordon Hay, our four SNA's and to our cleaning staff of Pauline, Pamela and Gina, I am very grateful for the essential work you do. To the Board of Management I am very grateful for your support and advice. A special word of appreciation to the Parent's Council for their wonderful fundraising and event organization. We are very fortunate as a school to have such a positive and hard working committee. To the many other parents and friends of the school who give so generously of their time and wisdom, thank you. Finally to the pupils of Callystown N.S. thank you for all of your efforts and for making all our work so worthwhile.

I would like to wish you all very memorable, safe and enjoyable summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you all refreshed in September

Yours sincerely,

Ambrose Mc Ginnity (Principal)

First Communion Class 2007

